

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) A system of a multimodal information service application for multimodal e-business alert service, comprising:

a multimodal e-business alert configuration that dictates different aspects of how said multimodal e-business alert service is to behave; and

a multimodal e-business alert unit for generating a multimodal e-business alert based on a multimodal e-business alert specification contained in an event issued by an e-business provider and said multimodal e-business alert configuration, said multimodal e-business alert, once generated, being sent to an e-business consumer according to said multimodal e-business alert specification, wherein said multimodal e-business alert unit comprises a history database for storing information related to the history of sending e-business alerts to and receiving responses from said e-business consumer.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein said multimodal e-business alert unit comprises: at least one incoming request queue for queuing an event representing an alert request received from said e-business provider; an e-business alert service for constructing said e-business alert request based on said alert request and said multimodal e-business alert specification, for sending said e-business alert request to a multimodal platform, and for tracking the performance of said multimodal e-business alert service via various queues; and at least one outgoing request queue for queuing said e-business alert request, said at least one outgoing alert

queue connecting to a multimodal data rendering mechanism of a multimodal platform, each of said at least one outgoing request queue corresponding to a different modality, said e-business alert request queued in said at least one outgoing queue being accessed, by said multimodal data rendering mechanism of said multimodal platform to generate an e-business alert in an destination modality according to said e-business alert specification and to send said e-business alert to said e-business consumer.

16. (Original) The system according to claim 15, wherein said at least one incoming request queue comprises at least one of: an incoming ASAP queue for queuing an event, received from said e-business provider, that is to be converted into a multimodal e-business alert and that is specified to be sent to said e-business consumer as soon as possible; and an incoming timed queue for queuing an event, received from said e-business provider, that is specified to be sent as a multimodal e-business alert to said e-business consumer at a given time.

17. (Original) The system according to claim 15, wherein said at least one outgoing request queue comprises at least one of: a facsimile queue for queuing an e-business alert request that corresponds to an e-business alert that is to be sent to said e-business consumer via facsimile; an electronic mail queue for queuing an e-business alert request that corresponds to an e-business alert that is to be sent to said e-business consumer via an electronic mail; a pager queue for queuing an e-business alert request that corresponds to an e-business alert that is to be sent to said e-business consumer via a pager; and a voice queue for queuing an e-business alert request that corresponds to an e-business alert that is to be sent to said e-business consumer via a voice channel.

18. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 15, further comprising: a response queue for storing an outcome of sending an e-business alert to said e-business consumer; at least one status queue for storing information related to the performance of said e-

business alert service; and a data recorder for recording information from said at least one status queue.

19-27. (Canceled)

28. (Original) A method of multimodal information service application for multimodal e-business alert service, comprising: constructing a multimodal e-business alert configuration that dictates how said multimodal e-business alert service is to behave; issuing an event, by an e-business provider, to said multimodal e-business alert service, said event requesting said multimodal e-business alert service to send an e-business alert to an e-business consumer, said event including a multimodal e-business alert specification that instructs said multimodal e-business alert service how said e-business alert is to be sent to said e-business consumer; sending, by said multimodal information service application, a multimodal e-business alert to said e-business consumer based on said multimodal e-business alert configuration and said multimodal e-business alert specification contained in said event, said multimodal e-business alert being rendered by a multimodal platform in a multimodal information service mechanism.

29. (Currently amended) The method according to [claim 15 and] claim 28, wherein said multimodal e-business alert specification comprises: an e-business history; and a push.

30. (Original) The method according to claim 29, wherein said push comprises at least one of: at least one criterion under which a multimodal e-business alert is to be sent to said e-business consumer; a default means by which said multimodal e-business alert is to be sent to said e-business consumer; or zero or more alternative means to send said multimodal e-business alert when an attempt to send said e-business alert using said default means fails, said zero or more alternative means being applied when a condition is satisfied.

31. (Original) The method according to claim 30, wherein said default means and said

zero or more alternative means include at least one of: electronic mail; facsimile; pager; wired phone; or wireless phone.

32. (Original) The method according to claim 30, wherein said condition includes a situation in which a phone, to where an e-business alert is sent using said default means, is busy.

33. (Original) The method according to claim 30, wherein said condition includes the situation in which a phone, to where an e-business alert is sent via one of said zero or more alternative means, is not answered.

34. (Original) The method according to claim 30, wherein said sending a multimodal e-business alert comprises: receiving, by said multimodal information service application, said event from said e-business provider; retrieving said e-business alert configuration associated with said e-business consumer; processing said multimodal e-business alert specification to generate said e-business alert request; pushing said e-business alert request into one of a plurality of outgoing request queues; generating, by said multimodal platform, said e-business alert based on said e-business alert request; and sending said e-business alert to said e-business consumer using said default means through a multimodal connection mechanism in said multimodal platform.

35. (Original) The method according to claim 34, further comprising: examining an response yielded from said sending to see whether said sending is successful, said examining generating an outcome of either negative or positive; updating an e-business history, if said outcome is positive; repeating the acts starting from said processing, if said alternative means is defined in said multimodal e-business alert specification.

36-38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with a program for multimodal e-business alert service, said program comprising:

constructing a multimodal e-business alert configuration that dictates how said multimodal e-business alert service is to behave;

issuing an event, by an e-business provider, to said multimodal e-business alert service, said event requesting said multimodal e-business alert service to send an e-business alert to an e-business consumer, said event including a multimodal e-business alert specification that instructs said multimodal e-business alert service how said e-business alert is to be sent to said e-business consumer;

sending, by said multimodal business alert service, a multimodal e-business alert to said e-business consumer based on said multimodal e-business alert configuration and said multimodal e-business alert specification contained in said event, said multimodal e-business alert being rendered by a multimodal platform in a multimodal information service mechanism; and

storing a history of the e-business alert sent by the multimodal e-business alert service and responses received from said e-business consumer.

40. (Original) The medium according to claim 39, wherein said sending a multimodal e-business alert comprises: receiving, by said multimodal information service application, said event from said e-business provider; retrieving said e-business alert configuration associated with said e-business consumer; processing said multimodal e-business alert specification to generate said e-business alert request; pushing said e-business alert request into one of a plurality of outgoing request queues; generating, by said multimodal platform, said e-business alert based on said e-business alert request; and sending said e-business alert to said e-business consumer using said default means through a multimodal connection mechanism in said multimodal platform.

41. (Previously presented) The medium according to claim 40, said program further

comprising: examining an response yielded from said sending to see whether said sending is successful, said examining generating an outcome of either negative or positive; updating the history, if said outcome is positive; repeating the acts starting from said processing, if said alternative means is defined in said multimodal e-business alert specification.

42-45. (Canceled)